

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05

H-01 /045 W

----- 060678

R 030920Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1625

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SINGAPORE 4835

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, SN

SUBJ: CIVAIR: PANAM LICENSE AMENDMENT

REF: A. SINGAPORE 4754 (NOTAL); B. SINGAPORE 4787 (NOTAL)

1. UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM NEW YORK, PANAM/SEA MANAGING DIRECTOR WILLIAM COWDEN VISITED SINGAPORE NOV 30. HE AND ARTHUR WEE, PANAM'S SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA DIRECTOR, HELD MEETINGS SEPARATELY WITH EMBOFF, CHEONG PAK CHOW, DIRECTOR DEPT OF CIVIL AVIATION (DCA), AND LIM CHIN BENG, MANAGING DIRECTOR SIA.

2. MR. WEE LATER REPORTED THAT MEETING WITH DCA WAS ENCOURAGING SINCE CHEONG APPEARED SYMPATHETIC TO PANAM REQUEST FOR ONWARD RIGHTS TO K.L. AND PROMISED TO RECONVENE CIVAIR LICENSING COMMITTEE DURING THIS WEEK TO RECONSIDER PANAM REQUEST AND POSSIBILITY OF FLIGHT-BY-FLIGHT APPROVAL; HOWEVER, MEETING WITH LIM REFLECTED SIA'S TOUGH ATTITUDE AND UNYIELDING EFFORT TO PIN DOWN ROUTE TO U.S. LIM REPORTEDLY SAID PANAM IS EXTENDING BIT BY BIT WHILE SIA HAS NO FIRM COMMITMENT ON ROUTE TO U.S.

3. WEE TELLS US THAT SIA HAS SENT SURVEY TEAM TO GUAM WHICH MAY INDICATE THEY WILL TABLE COMPROMISE SECOND CHOICE PROPOSAL

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FOR CENTRAL PACIFIC ROUTE AT NEXT BILATERALS.

4. COMMENT: UNLESS SIA OBJECTIONS OVERRULED, GOS WILL PROBABLY KEEP PANAM ON VERY SHORT LEASH REGARDING ANY CHANGES IN PRESENT OPERATING PERMISSION, PENDING FURTHER BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, WE CANNOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY OF APPROVAL BEYOND RIGHTS TO K.L. ON "SPECIAL DISPENSATION" FLIGHT-BY-FLIGHT BASIS. IN NEXT BILATERALS, SINGAPORE FALLBACK POSITION AND SECOND CHOICE FOR ROUTES MAY BE SINGAPORE-JAKARTA-GUAM-HAWAII-WEST COAST. ALSO, IF SIA PLANS TO GO AFTER U.S. BUSINESS TRAVEL IN BIG WAY, COULD CONSIDER ROUTE TO DALLAS OR HOUSTON IN LIEU OF WEST COAST. THIS WOULD CATER TO LARGE NUMBER OF AMERICAN COMPANIES BASED IN SOUTHWEST U.S. AND OPERATING IN OIL EXPLORATION AND OTHER PETROLEUM-RELATED ACTIVITIES IN SEA AND BE ESPECIALLY COMPATIBLE WITH ROUTE VIA JAKARTA; HOWEVER IN DISCUSSIONS WITH EMBASSY DCA DOES NOT GIVE SLIGHTEST INDICATION THAT THEY ARE CONSIDERING ANYTHING BUT JAPAN-U.S. ROUTE, YET. PANAM AND EMBASSY AGREE THAT SIA'S PERSONALIZED-SERVICE ORIENTATION WOULD PROVIDE STIFF COMPETITION FOR AMERICAN OR OTHER FLAG CARRIERS ON MOST ANY ROUTE. GRANT

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## Message Attributes

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